

REMARKS

The Office Action of January 25, 2008 was received and carefully reviewed. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Species 9, involving an insulating film formed of silicon nitride on the front side, as claimed in claims 71-73 and 80-82.

Further, claims 22, 23, 28, 29, 40, 41, 51, 52, 55 and 56 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 86 and 87 are added to recite additional features to which Applicants are entitled and which should be considered readable on the elected species.

In view of the above elections and remarks, examination on the merits of pending claims 71-73, 80-82, 86 and 87 is believed to be in order and consideration and allowance of the instant application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/Sean A. Pryor, Reg. #48103/
Sean A. Pryor

NIXON PEABODY LLP
CUSTOMER NO.: 22204
401 9th Street N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 585-8000